

Duchesne County Library System Internet and Computer Access Policy & Procedures

Policy Purpose

Public access to the Internet and computer services is an important component of the library's services. The provision of these services, however, are governed by Federal, state, and local laws. This policy is intended to meet the provisions of the Federal Children's Internet Protection Act, Utah Code Annotated (UCA) 9-7-213, 9-7-215, and 9-7-216 and Utah Administrative Rule R458-2. This policy is approved by the Duchesne County Library Board of Trustees, is reviewed at least every three years, and is available at Duchesne County Library System branches.

Internet Access Regulation

To comply with the requirements of the aforementioned regulations, Duchesne County Library System employs the use of a technology protection measure (filter) on all public computers with Internet access. The filter restricts access to online gambling as prohibited in UCA 76-10-1102 and material described in UCA 9-7-215, which includes visual depictions defined as child pornography or obscene. Minors are also to be protected from visual depictions defined as harmful to minors. The filter may not block all restricted content due to the continual rapid change of Internet content. Illegal activity and "hacking" of library computers is also prohibited. Duchesne County Library System does not condone the use of internet services for illegal or obscene purposes, nor is it responsible for the content of materials accessed by users while on the Internet, intentionally or unintentionally. The Library reserves the right to deny Internet and library services to individuals violating the law and/or library policies. Illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities. Confidentiality and privacy are also not guaranteed as the Internet is not a secure medium and user access may be monitored at any time by authorized or unauthorized individuals.

A reminder of this policy is displayed on the start screen of patron computers. Agreement to follow the policy is implied by patrons over 18 years of age upon logging on to the computer. Patrons under the age of 18 must also have written consent from a parent or guardian. Library staff monitors computer use, however, parents or guardians are responsible for their children's internet activities, whether present or not.

Policy Violation Consequences

Consequences for violations of this policy may include:

- A verbal warning
- Being asked to leave the library
- Suspension of library privileges including access to the computers or library buildings
- Police intervention and legal citations

Staff members in charge are responsible for enforcing the policy and its consequences. If a patron's problem behavior continues, or if there is extreme misuse initially, the patron will be asked to leave for the day. Police will be notified if a patron refuses to leave after being asked to do so, or if the computers were used for illegal acts. Suspension of library privileges will be given a specified time duration, up to one year, determined by the Library Director. A suspension longer than one week may be appealed to the Duchesne County Library Board of Trustees. A ruling will be determined at the Board's regularly scheduled meeting and is final. Patrons may appear to present their position at the meeting, but must ask to be included on the meeting agenda no later than 10 days before the meeting.

Computer Sessions & Reservations

Patrons must have a library card to sign into library computers. Patrons are allotted one hour sessions on library computers. They may have another one hour session if no other patrons are waiting for computer use after each session expires. If all patron computers are currently in use, patrons may reserve the next available computer using the reservation system found on the library catalog computer. If a patron knows they will need extra time for time-sensitive work such as a test, assignment, application, etc., they may ask the library staff if they may have an extended session. Visitors to the library who are not regular patrons may receive a guest pass for a session. Patrons and visitors may not repetitively receive guest passes, but should acquire a library card. Patrons under 18 must use a library card to log onto library computers and are not given guest passes unless a guardian is present to request one for them.

Reviewed: May 17, 2016

Adopted: June 21, 2016

Effective: June 22, 2016